



8-21

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

INFORMATION SERVICE

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

For Release UPON RECEIPT

BOSTON FISH PIER LANDINGS FOR AUGUST 1940

An average of \$3.00 per hundred pounds was paid for the 26.6 million pounds of fish landed during August at the Boston Fish Pier and sold through the New England Fish Exchange, according to monthly summary figures released today by the Boston Fishery Market News office of the Fish and Wildlife Service, United States Department of the Interior.

Although these figures indicate a decrease of 1.8 million pounds in volume under the previous month, the increase in value amounts to 49 cents per hundred weight.

When compared with the total catch of 25.7 million pounds for the corresponding period of 1939, the figures for August 1940 show an increase of 3 percent. The average for August last year--\$2.69 per hundred pounds--as against the current \$3.00 average, indicates an increase of \$0.31 per hundred pounds, or 12 percent, for this year. The average price of \$3.39 for the first eight months of 1940 is \$0.73 higher than for the comparable period of 1939.

The August catch, which was the result of 881 trips to inshore and offshore banks, was worth \$796,800 to the fishermen. During the same period in 1939, 780 fares were landed with 877,000 pounds less fish, and valued at \$105,900 less, or \$690,900.

In 371 trips, offshore vessels brought in 22.6 million pounds of the total, spread among 19 classifications, at an average price of \$3.13 per hundred weight. Inshore craft, in 510 trips, landed about 4 million pounds, consisting of 17 classifications, bringing \$2.27 for an average.

From offshore vessels, haddock (7.2 million pounds at \$3.39 per hundred weight); haddock scrod (4.3 million pounds at \$2.88); mackerel (3.4 million pounds at \$1.88); market cod (2.5 million pounds at \$2.67); and large cod (1.7 million pounds at \$2.83) were the most abundant species during August. Rosefish (1.0 million pounds at \$1.31 per hundred weight); hake (549,000 pounds at \$2.40); and pollock (490,000 pounds at \$2.32) followed in that order.

The month's highest average price was again brought by swordfish, at \$19.49 per hundred weight; scallops, second, at \$15.37; and halibut was third with \$13.68.

Inshore craft landed 1.7 million pounds of whiting (at \$1.26 per hundred weight) in greatest quantity. Haddock (561,000 pounds at \$4.31); rosefish (323,000 pounds at \$1.43); yellowtails (322,000 pounds at \$1.96); and hake (233,000 pounds at \$2.93) followed.

Peak of vessel traffic into Boston occurred on Monday, August 26, when 50 vessels landed with 1.7 million pounds of fish; the highest average price was paid on Monday, August 19, when about 1.4 million pounds sold at \$3.82 per hundred weight.

#